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The University of Chicago

DIVISION OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

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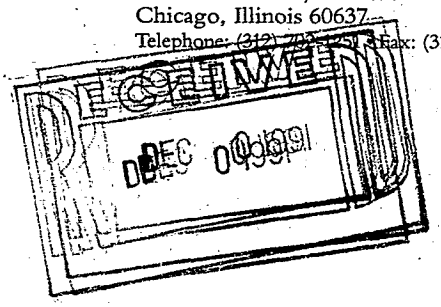

December 18, 1991

Harmon C. McAllister, Ph.D., Research Director
The Council for Tobacco Research - U.S.A., Inc.
900 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Dr. McAllister:

The University of Chicago is celebrating the centennial of its foundation. As part of these celebrations, we plan to present a Symposium on Atherosclerosis on May 7th and 8th, 1992 to reflect the fact that this has been a focus of the University of Chicago's experimental work for many decades. In conjunction with this symposium we wish also to pay tribute to Dr. Robert W. Wissler, who has been a member of our faculty since 1947. He also served as Chairman of our Department of Pathology for 15 years and as Director of Specialized Center of Research in Arteriosclerosis for ten years. He now directs a multi-center study on "The Pathobiological Determinants of Atherosclerosis in Youth" (PDAY), the results of which will be presented as part of the symposium. Dr. Wissler has made many critical contributions to the understanding of atherosclerosis--the presence in atherosclerotic plaque of the multifunctional smooth muscle cell, of the macrophage; the role of food fats in determining the nature of the atherosclerotic lesion; demonstration that established atherosclerotic lesions can be caused to regress. His contributions extend beyond his specific scientific observations. He has been a major figure in the national and international activity on atherosclerosis and in promoting research on this. Dr. Wissler will be celebrating his 75th birthday in the Spring of 1992.

The University of Chicago is an appropriate center for a state of the art symposium on atherosclerosis. In addition to the contributions of Dr. Robert Wissler,

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Chicago faculty members (past and present) who have made major contributions in this field include Earl Benditt, Seymour Glagov, Angelo Scanu, Christopher Zarins, Peter Davies and Godfrey Getz.

I write to ask you to consider helping us by contributing your sponsorship of this symposium. The program is attached. As you see, it is a two day symposium, the first day of which concentrates on "Human Atherosclerosis" including the presentation of some results of the PDAY study--an important and unique modern study of the evolution of the atherosclerotic lesion in young people. The second day will present information on the frontiers of research in experimental atherosclerosis to be presented by some of the leading figures in this field. Most of the individuals named have indicated their willingness to participate in this symposium.

We expect to meet the full expenses of the invited participants and also to provide meals for all of the attendees. A formal dinner will be held on the evening of May 7th for the invited guests. We would be most grateful for your help in making this symposium an outstanding and memorable event in the University of Chicago's centennial.

Sincerely,

Godfrey S. Getz, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman, Department of Pathology
Professor, Departments of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
and Medicine

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